

Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:45 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

## Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - November 21, 2002

- *In the West*, mild, dry weather continues to aid autumn fieldwork, but maintains high moisture demands of emerging winter wheat. In the *Washington and Oregon*, isolated rain and snow showers are improving only local moisture reserves.
- *On the Plains*, dry weather supports final summer crop harvests. On the *northern High Plains*, somewhat milder weather is lowering winter wheat growth rates and lowering crop moisture requirements.
- In the Corn Belt, cool, showery weather hampers late corn and soybean harvesting in the Great Lakes region and the Ohio Valley. Drier, albeit cool weather favors harvesting in the Mississippi Valley.
- *In the South*, late cotton and soybean harvesting continues to make good progress in the *Delta*. However, rain has returned to the *Southeast and Mid-Atlantic states*, increasing long-term moisture reserves but hindering autumn fieldwork.

<u>Outlook</u>: A cold front moving through the *Ohio Valley and Atlantic Coast States* is bringing showers and below-normal temperatures to the *eastern third of the nation*. An area of low pressure will develop along the front as it reaches the coast, maintaining the threat of rain and snow in the *Mid Atlantic and Northeast* into the weekend. Elsewhere, dry weather and above-normal temperatures will prevail from the *Plains* west to the *Pacific Coast*, although a strong cold front will push into the *northern Plains* by the weekend. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 26-30 features below-normal precipitation in the *West, northern Plains, and Southeast*, while above-normal precipitation is expected in the *southern Rockies, southern High Plains, Great Lakes, and Northeast*. Below-normal temperatures are forecast for the *eastern half of the Nation*, while above-normal temperatures are forecast for the *West*.

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